

SITUATION REPORT NO. 26
INCIDENT NO. 97-003
DATE: February 10, 1997 TIME: 12:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Winter storms and blizzard conditions statewide.
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: As a result of harsh winter conditions, five of the 11 North Dakota University System schools anticipate exceeding their utility budgets. University of North Dakota (UND) officials anticipate a shortfall of \$250,000, which they attribute to new facilities and higher heating degree days. North Dakota State University staff expects a shortfall of \$160,000, and North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS) staff projects a \$65,000 shortfall. Minot State University officials estimate the utility budget will be exceeded by \$32,000, and Valley City State University officials expect a \$9,100 shortfall.

Nine of the 11 North Dakota University System colleges and universities have either exceeded snow removal budgets or recorded unexpected expenses because of the winter storm disaster. Major costs included overtime, vehicle and snow hauling expenses.

4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: No change from previous reports.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: N.D. Division of Facility Management staff is notifying all state government building managers about potential eligibility for federal assistance for snow removal costs necessary to prevent buildings from becoming structurally stressed.

North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives staff has asked its members to determine eligible emergency response costs necessary to respond to the winter storm disaster.

N.D. National Guard members are using 30 dozers for 14 snow removal missions in progress in 12 counties: Barnes, Dickey, Eddy, Foster, Grant, Griggs, LaMoure, Logan, Nelson, Ransom, Stutsman and Walsh Counties. Other equipment includes 30 tractor-trailers, 27 support vehicles and one grader. These missions require staffing by 104 Army Guard and Air Guard personnel. This weekend, crews completed a snow blower mission in Nelson County and two dozer missions in McIntosh and Kidder Counties. There are no pending National Guard missions. Since snow removal efforts began, the National Guard has completed 65 missions, including six N.D. Department of Transportation (N.D. DOT) missions.

A February 7 progress report for county snow removal efforts indicated averages of nearly 97 percent two-lane emergency access and 78 percent push back of snow have been achieved statewide.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: The National Weather Service (NWS) forecast calls for a few morning flurries statewide and areas of blowing and drifting snow in the extreme northeast. Temperatures will range from the teens to around 20 above. Speeds for a northerly wind will range from five to 15 miles per hour (mph).

The N.D. Division of Emergency Management's Situation Reports and photos of snow removal efforts are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: "<http://www.state.nd.us/dem>".

Raymond J. Staiger, Acting State Director